Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

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R 211555Z MAR 75 FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2319 INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RIO DE JANEIRO 0944

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ELAB. BR

SUBJECT: METALWORKERS ELECTION

REF: STATE 61274

- 1. GOVERNMENT MOVED AGAINST VICTORIOUS ANTI-GOVERNMENT METALWORKER SLATE BY REFUSING TO ALLOW FOUR OF ITS MEMBERS, INCLUDING LEADER PIERRE FRANCOIS COPPIETERS, TO TAKE OFFICE. ON FEBRUARY 17 OFFICIAL RESULTS OF JANUARY 29 ELECTION WERE PUBLISHED OMITTING NAMES OF FOUR UNACCEPTABLES. ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT ITS OBJECTIONS ARE BASED ON ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION. REST OF GROUP SWORN IN MARCH 4.
- 2. IN COMPANION CASE, ELECTIONS WERE HELD MARCH 3-7 IN FORMERLY INTERVENED RIO DE JANEIRO BANKWORKERS UNION. PRO-GOVERNMENT SLATE WON OUT IN CLOSE CONTEST AND WILL BE OFFICIALLY INSTALLED IN NEAR FUTURE.
- 3. COMMENT: THERE MAY BE SOME TRUTH TO THE ALLEGATION OF CORRUPTION IN METALWORKERS. HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO TURE THAT THE FOUR UNACCEPTABLES ARE TRADE UNION MILITANTS WHO HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF THE GOVERNMENT'S WAGE POLICY AND WHOSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ELECTION CAMPAIGN INCLUDED CALLS FOR A MUCH HIGHER WAGE IN-

CREASE THAN THE GOVERNMENT IS ALLOWING. GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED COPPIETERS KEY FIGURE IN METALWORKERS ELECTION AND LABOR MINISTRY OPENLY CAMPAIGNED AGAINST HIM. END COMMENT.

4. AIRGRAM REPORTING DETAILS OF BOTH ELECTIONS - BANKWORKERS AND METALWORKERS - NOW IN PREPARATION. DEXTER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ELECTION RESULTS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, METALWORKERS

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